

## Marshfield Conservation Commission

### 122nd Meeting

1 August 2018

Members Attending: Taber Allison, Allen Banbury, Steve Fiske, Ed Jalbert, Anne Miller, Sarah Norton, Bob Popp, and Rachel Rudi

Non-Members Attending: Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Minutes: June minutes approved unanimously as presented.

**Note**: there was no July meeting and hence to minutes to approve.

Treasurers Report. Bobbi

- Annie Reed spoke to SB and they agreed to fund reprinting the pamphlet out of Operating Fund
- In the future expenses will be paid via the Operating Fund until it is depleted
- The Operating Fund will be the default unless it is for a new expense in which case the CC can request payment via the operating fund
- Operating Fund is refreshed every 1 Jan although funds are not allocated until the budget is passed at town meeting

Archival Minutes:

- Bobbi wants approved minutes even if entails only a minor spelling change from the draft minutes.
- Bobbi needs to receive only the final minutes (Word format), she doesn't need draft minutes if they are posted on website.
- Bobbi provided a thumb drive for **Bob** to upload all approved minutes. **Bob** agreed to search for missing one and may need to contact the previous chairs: Bret and / or Mike.

Town Plan

- Review by Select Bd will be on **Tuesday August 21st @ 7**
- SB has approved the town plan as submitted by the PC but will consider any comments received at the hearing. **Ed, Anne, and Bob** will plan to attend
- The plan includes language addressing Act 171 (fragmentation), but not Act 174 (Energy Sighting).

### Natural Marshfield Update.

- EAB field trip had 14 attendees.
- No other programs currently planned, coffers are currently depleted to fund future speakers.
- NOVA film presentation by library **Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 at OSC**
- Anne solicited **suggestions for future speakers.**

### Brochures:

- Plnflld wants 150 copies which they will pay for. Cost is \$130 for 500 copies
- Sarah spoke with Tracey Hambleton re. making the brochure available digitally. Would require some work to create a useable digital version. Tracey is unable to work on it now.
- Sarah wants to have paper copies to distribute at town functions and at Town Clerk's office.
- Taber questioned whether we should provide gratis copies to other CCs;. He thought it fine to provide them at cost, but also have a web based version so it would be more available, both as a printable pdf and as a web page document which is formatted to be viewed on a website.
- Sarah feels we shouldn't worry about recovering our costs. The RPC is interested in providing copies to new landowners.
- **Sarah** suggested working out an agreement with Minuteman Press where they bill other CCs directly.
- Motion to approve the printing of an additional 500 copies of which Plnflld would pay for 150 copies. Approved unanimously.
- **Taber** will determine the format of the current file whether it is a pdf or a publisher file.
- Sarah still concerned with printing from a pdf format in that may come out upside down or sideways.
- **Sarah and Rachel** will look into getting a web based version.
- Allen concerned about how to make known to other Ccs. Likely rely on AVCC to publicize.

### Stranahan Town Forest:

- Stranahan Stew. Committee received ca. 100 completed questionnaires at their forum in Jan and add'l 10 at last meeting in July. Public input phase is now over.
- SSC will present the results in Nov including a finished recreation plan done by consultants to be incorporated into the management plan.
- Bob mentioned that hunting was not mentioned as a recreational use by the consultant at the July meeting.

### Winooski River Watershed Plan

- The plan was provided to all towns in Basin along with an inquiry as to whether they would like a representative to address their committee.
- Steve suggested would be good to invite someone to our meeting.
- The plan will recommend reclassifying a number of waters from B to B1 or A. including a number of streams in Marshfield.
- Bob suggested a joint meeting with Plnfd & Cabot
- **Steve** will check on dates with other towns and try to organize the meeting.

### Sugaring operation update –

- Folks were concerned that most of sugaring operation is within a large forested block and questioned of who is monitoring the easements.
- Ed suggested we search for information from other large sap operations. At the meeting it was stated that long term impact is unknown
- Steve suggested that we encourage them to establish a monitoring plan to determine the impact. Taber suggested they donate towards a mitigation fund to fund research.
- They will be adding additional taps in 2019, 20, and 21.
- Members presented Concerns; spread of invasives, forest understory clearing , bird & mammal use, impacts to wetlands.
- Need to coordinate with the ad hoc group that has raised the initial concerns. **Taber and Steve** will coordinate with them.

### Announcements

- We received a stack of pamphlets from UVM Extension; both are available at [ourvermontwoods.org/legacy](http://ourvermontwoods.org/legacy) or from Emma Sass at [esass@uvm.edu](mailto:esass@uvm.edu)
  - Their Land, Their Legacy: A guide to helping inform landowners decisions about the future of their land
  - It's Your Legacy: A VT landowners guide to conservation based estate planning.

Submitted By: Bob Popp

Submitted On: August 4, 2018

Approved On: \_\_\_\_\_